

Remarks

This is in response to the February 11, 2011 Notice of Non-compliant Amendment (the Notice) in the above-referenced patent application. This Reply is being submitted within one month of the mailing date of the Notice. No petition or fee for extension of time is believed to be required.

Status of the Claims

Claims 1-2, 5, 8-10, 15-22, and 43 are currently pending or under consideration in accordance with the current amendments to the claims.

The original claims 1-2, 4-6, 8-22, 24, and 27-43 were pending for purposes of the September 27, 2010 final Office Action. On November 29, applicants submitted a response to the final Office Action, further amending Claim 1 and further canceling Claim 4. In addition, a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) was submitted, along with a copy of the Reply to the final Office Action. Because the amendments to the claims have not been indicated as being entered as of the date of the Notice, the amendment to Claim 1 is again indicated in the above Listing of Claims to be “currently amended.”

Claims 3, 7, 23, and 25-26 had been previously canceled, and claims 6, 11-14, 24, and 27-42 were previously withdrawn. However, in applicants’ November 29, 2010 Reply to the final Office Action, and the copy submitted with the RCE, the claim identifier for Claim 13 was inadvertently provided as “previously presented” when, in fact, Claim 13 had been withdrawn. Appropriate correction of the claim identifier for Claim 13 is provided in the above Listing of Claims.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Applicants further reiterate their position for patentability as presented in the November 29, 2010 Reply to the final Office Action and the December 27, 2010 submission and incorporate by reference, in their entirety, the Remarks regarding the Obviousness-Type Double Patenting Rejections and the Prior Art Rejections.

Applicants believe that the pending claims, as amended, are in condition for allowance and respectfully request issuance of a Notice of Allowance.

Applicants invite the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the address and/or phone number provided below if clarification or additional information is needed on any of these matters.

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Dated: March 3, 2011

Respectfully submitted,

/Ted W. Whitlock/

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